

STATE OF ALASKA INFORMAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (IRFP)



FORESTRY – HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLINICAL DIRECTOR IRFP 10-021-23

ISSUED MARCH 31, 2023

THE PURPOSE OF THE RFP IS TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO A QUALIFIED OFFEROR TO PROVIDE CLINICAL DIRECTOR SERVICES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGARDING DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM.

ISSUED BY:

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

PRIMARY CONTACT:

MICHAEL BURKHEAD
PROCUREMENT OFFICER
MICHAEL.BURKHEAD@ALASKA.GOV
(907) 269-8461

OFFERORS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RETURN THIS FORM.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: IF YOU RECEIVED THIS SOLICITATION FROM THE STATE OF ALASKA'S "ONLINE PUBLIC NOTICE" WEB SITE, YOU MUST REGISTER WITH THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER LISTED IN THIS DOCUMENT TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS. FAILURE TO CONTACT THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER MAY RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER.

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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS

SEC. 1.01 PURPOSE OF THE IRFP

The Department of Natural Resource (DNR), Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DOF) is soliciting proposals for a Clinical Director for the divisions Health and Wellness program. The division is seeking clinical oversight in the development and implementation of its Health and Wellness program.

SEC. 1.02 BUDGET

DOF anticipates a multi-year contract for DOF Health and Wellness Clinical Director. DOF anticipates new funding every year. Over the duration of five years total funding is not to exceed \$100,000.00.

The services are as needed, and the budget amount is an estimate only and does not represent a work commitment. The State does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of services to be provided or dollar amount to be spent under any contract resulting from this IRFP.

Approval or continuation of a contract resulting from this IRFP is contingent upon legislative appropriation.

SEC. 1.03 DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be received no later than **2:00 PM** prevailing Alaska Time on **Friday, April 21, 2023**. Late proposals or amendments will be disqualified and not opened or accepted for evaluation.

SEC. 1.04 PRIOR EXPERIENCE

In order for offers to be considered responsive offerors must meet these minimum prior experience requirements:

- 10 years of previous experience, in any combination, running, or providing clinical direction for, a Peer Support or Mental Health and Wellness support program for a first responder agency. Experience as a first responder/spouse of a first responder. This may include law enforcement, structure fire, EMS, search and rescue, emergency dispatcher, military, wildland fire or other first responder position. This requirement may also be met by having at least 7 years of clinical experience working with first responders. Must provide proof of first responder competency.
- Must hold a Doctoral **OR** Masters degree from an accredited college or university in psychology, social work, or closely related field.
- Must be licensed professional counselor, psychologist, or licensed clinical Social Worker in good standing with professional standards of conduct.
- 2 professional references. One of which must include reference to the applicant's competency with first responders.
- Must be licensed to practice within the State of Alaska within (60) days of contract award.

Required Certifications:

- ICISF Approved: Critical Incident Stress Management: Individual Crisis Intervention and Peer Support.
- ICISF Approved: Critical Incident Stress Management: Group Crisis Intervention
- ICISF Approved: Critical Incident Stress Management: Advanced Group Crisis Intervention

- Trauma informed care
- EMDR: Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing. Trained with an additional 40 consultation hours.

The offeror must submit evidence satisfactory to the division that they meet the prior experience requirements. An offeror's failure to meet these minimum prior experience requirements will cause their proposal to be considered non-responsive and rejected.

SEC. 1.05 REQUIRED REVIEW

Offerors should carefully review this solicitation for defects and questionable or objectionable material. Comments concerning defects and questionable or objectionable material should be made in writing and received by the procurement officer at least ten days before the deadline for receipt of proposals. This will allow time for the issuance of any necessary amendments. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective proposal and exposure of offeror's proposals upon which award could not be made.

SEC. 1.06 QUESTIONS PRIOR TO DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS

All questions must be in writing and directed to the procurement officer. The interested party must confirm telephone conversations in writing. **Deadline for receipt of questions is 2:00 AKST on Wednesday, April 12, 2023.**

Two types of questions generally arise. One may be answered by directing the questioner to a specific section of the IRFP. These questions may be answered over the telephone. Other questions may be more complex and may require a written amendment to the IRFP. The procurement officer will make that decision.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER: Michael Burkhead – PHONE (907) 269-8461 - TDD (907) 269-8411

Email: michael.burkhead@alaska.gov

SEC. 1.07 RETURN INSTRUCTIONS

If you are submitting a proposal via email, the technical proposal and cost proposal must be saved as separate PDF documents and emailed to michael.burkhead@alaska.gov as separate, clearly labeled attachments, such as "Vendor A – Technical Proposal.pdf" and "Vendor A – Cost Proposal.pdf" (Where 'Vendor A' is the name of the offeror). The email must contain the RFP number in the subject line.

The maximum size of a single email (including text and attachments) that can be received by the State is 20mb (megabytes). If the email containing the proposal exceeds this size, the proposal must be sent in multiple emails that are each less than 20 megabytes and each email must comply with the requirements described above.

Please note that email transmission is not instantaneous. Similar to sending a hard copy proposal, if you are emailing your proposal, the State recommends sending it in sufficient time to ensure the email is delivered by the deadline for receipt of proposals.

If submitting proposals using U.S. Mail, or delivery service, offerors must submit one hard copy of their proposal, in writing, to the procurement officer in a sealed package. The cost proposal included with the package must be sealed separately from the rest of the proposal and must be clearly identified. The sealed proposal package(s) must be addressed as follows:

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry & Fire Protection

Attention: Michael Burkhead
Request for Proposal (IRFP) Number: 10-021-23
IRFP Title: Forestry – Health and Wellness Clinical Director
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1450
Anchorage, AK 99501

It is the offeror's responsibility to contact the issuing agency at **(907) 269-8461** to confirm that the proposal has been received. The state is not responsible for unreadable, corrupt, or missing attachments.

SEC. 1.08 ENROLLMENT IN IRIS

Offerors will be required to be enrolled in the State of Alaska's Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS) database prior to award of a contract resulting from this IRFP. Enrollment can be done online at the following link: <https://iris-vss.alaska.gov>. Offerors who are not enrolled prior to award of a contract will be notified by DOF Procurement. Failure of an offeror to enroll in the IRIS database will delay award of the contract and may delay issuance of contract work.

SEC. 1.09 PROPOSAL CONTENTS

The following information must be included in all proposals.

(a) AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

All proposals must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the offeror to the provisions of the IRFP. Proposals must remain open and valid for at least 90-days from the date set as the deadline for receipt of proposals.

(b) OFFEROR'S CERTIFICATION

By signature on the proposal, offerors certify that they comply with the following:

- A. the laws of the State of Alaska;
- B. the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- C. the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- D. the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government;
- E. all terms and conditions set out in this IRFP;
- F. a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
- G. that the offers will remain open and valid for at least 90 days.

If any offeror fails to comply with [a] through [g] of this paragraph, the state reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the contractor in default.

(c) VENDOR TAX ID

A valid Vendor Tax ID must be submitted to the issuing office with the proposal or within five days of the state's request.

(d) CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Each proposal shall include a statement indicating whether or not the firm or any individuals working on the contract has a possible conflict of interest (e.g., currently employed by the State of Alaska or formerly employed by the State of Alaska within the past two years) and, if so, the nature of that conflict. The procurement officer reserves the right to **consider a proposal non-responsive and reject it** or cancel the award if any interest disclosed from any source could either give the appearance of a conflict or cause speculation as to the objectivity of the contract to be performed by the offeror.

SEC. 1.10 ASSISTANCE TO OFFERORS WITH A DISABILITY

Offerors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this IRFP or participating in the procurement process. For more information, contact the procurement officer no later than ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

SEC. 1.11 AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSALS

Amendments to or withdrawals of proposals will only be allowed if acceptable requests are received prior to the deadline that is set for receipt of proposals. No amendments or withdrawals will be accepted after the deadline unless they are in response to the state's request in accordance with 2 AAC 12.290.

SEC. 1.12 AMENDMENTS TO THE IRFP

If an amendment is issued, it will be provided to all who were notified of the IRFP and to those who have registered with the procurement officer after receiving the IRFP from the State of Alaska Online Public Notice website.

SEC. 1.13 IRFP SCHEDULE

The IRFP schedule set out herein represents the State of Alaska's best estimate of the schedule that will be followed. If a component of this schedule, such as the deadline for receipt of proposals, is delayed, the rest of the schedule may be shifted accordingly. All times are Alaska Time.

- Issue IRFP Friday, March 31, 2023
- Deadline for Receipt of Proposals, 2:00pm AKST on Friday, April 21, 2023 ,
- Proposal Evaluation Committee complete evaluation by on approximately, Thursday, April 27, 2023
- State of Alaska issues Notice of Award on approximately, Friday, April 28, 2023
- State of Alaska issues contract approximately Friday, May 12, 2023
- Contract start approximately Friday, May 12, 2023

This IRFP does not, by itself, obligate the state. The state's obligation will commence when the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources , or the Commissioner's designee. Upon written notice to the contractor, the state may set a different starting date for the contract. The state will not be responsible for any work done by the contractor, even work done in good faith, if it occurs prior to the contract start date set by the state.

SEC. 1.14 ALTERNATE PROPOSALS

Offerors may only submit one proposal for evaluation.

In accordance with 2 AAC 12.830 alternate proposals (proposals that offer something different than what is asked for) will be rejected.

SECTION 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SEC. 2.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The State of Alaska Division of Forestry & Fire Protection is seeking a Clinical Director to oversee the development of the Health and Wellness Program. This individual will work alongside the DOF Health and Wellness Coordinator. The primary purpose of this position is to support program development. The second responsibility will be in training of DOF peer supporters in the application of critical incident stress management and 1:1 peer support techniques. Tertiary needs will be clinical support to staff/peer supporters on a limited basis.

There are specific incidents in which the Division of Forestry needs to be able to offer immediate support to our own personnel with adequate resources. In the previous two years alone, we have had two such incidents. Due to the high-risk nature of our work, these incidents will continue to happen, and we need to be prepared to support our crews and their families.

Currently, the Division of Forestry and Fire Protection is completely reliant on outside resources to manage these incidents and offers no specifically trained, identified internal supports. The lack of trained personnel within our own division greatly hampers our response time. Responding with appropriately trained resources as quickly as possible is of the utmost importance. It is also vital to have culturally relevant supports that understand the nature of first response and specifically, wildland fire.

The Division also recognizes the importance of proactive mental health. The focus will be to establish mental health and wellness practices from an employee's initial date of hire. This will include yearly mental health and wellness training along with access to tools and resources to support an individual who may be experiencing a need for additional support. DOF staff that are trained peer supports will be available to conduct 1:1 de-brief, at the request of any DOF employee.

The Clinical Director will support these program services which will be available to be activated at any time for full-time, part-time, non-permanent or seasonal employees.

SECTION 3. SCOPE OF WORK & CONTRACT INFORMATION

SEC. 3.01 SCOPE OF WORK

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Fire Protection, is soliciting proposals for a Clinical Director (contractor) for the divisions Health and Wellness Program. Specifically, the Contractor shall provide the following services in execution of this contract:

1. Clinical:
 - a. Post Action Staff Support provided to individual State of Alaska DOF peer support/CIRT team members limited to job-related peer support incidences. Estimated 12 hours bi-annually.
 - b. The Clinical Director will be an available resource to select command staff along with Peer Support/CIRT team members for emergent crisis consultation that falls outside of their normal peer support role. These services may fall outside business hours and include weekends.
 - c. Between the above listed deliverables, the clinical services will not exceed 40 hours bi-annually.
2. EDUCATION AND TRAINING:
 - a. Education and Training will be provided on a quarterly basis for peer support/ Wellness Program staff, including but not limited to education on stress management, critical incident reactions and response, communication and management skills training, and peer support. The training will be no more than 45 minutes and based on the need of the Wellness program and the need of the enlisted peer supporters. The Clinical Director will conduct or approve all training material. Estimated time including training preparation, review and/or Presentation, 6 hours bi-annually, not to exceed 10 hours.
3. CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE:
 - a. Critical Incident Response will be provided upon request including but not limited to the facilitation of group debriefing, as needed. These services are provided to voluntary participants only, although supervisory staff may encourage participation. In person response time will be within 72 hours of notification. In the event the clinical director is unable to be attend in person within the designated time frame, they will be responsible for identifying a licensed and qualified substitute resource. Estimated time to-be-decided based on need and type of incident.
4. WELLNESS UNIT/PROGRAM SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT:
 - a. As is relevant and applicable to Clinical direction, the Clinical Director will provide program guidance and direction regarding peer support and critical incident response as it pertains to program development for first responder specific agencies. Estimated at 18 hours bi-annually. Not to exceed 25 hours.

SEC. 3.02 CONTRACT TERM AND WORK SCHEDULE

The length of the contract will be from the date of award, approximately **May 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023** with one (1) 6-month renewal and four (4) one-year renewals to be exercised at the State's sole discretion.

- Initial Period: May 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023
- Renewal 1: November 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024
- Renewal 2: May 1 2024 – April 30, 2025
- Renewal 3: May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026
- Renewal 4: May 1, 2026 – April 30, 2027

Unless otherwise provided in this IRFP, the State and the successful offeror/contractor agree: (1) that any extension of the contract excluding any exercised renewal options, will be considered as a month-to-month extension, and all other terms and conditions shall remain in full force and effect and (2) the procurement officer will provide written notice to the contractor of the intent to cancel such month-to-month extension at least 30 days before the desired date of cancellation. A month-to-month extension may only be executed by the procurement officer via a written contract amendment.

SEC. 3.03 DELIVERABLES

The contractor will be required to provide the following deliverables:

- Counseling
- Education and Training
- Critical Incident Response
- Wellness Unit/Program Support and Development

SEC. 3.04 CONTRACT TYPE

The resulting contract will be a Master Agreement (MA). The dollar amount shown on the MA will be the maximum dollar amount to be spent for all services provided under the agreement.

The State does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of services to be provided, or dollar amount to be spent under any contract resulting from this IRFP.

SEC. 3.05 PROPOSED PAYMENT PROCEDURES

The state will make payments based on a negotiated payment schedule. Each billing must consist of an invoice and progress report. No payment will be made until the progress report and invoice has been approved by the project director.

SEC. 3.06 PROMPT PAYMENT FOR STATE PURCHASES

The state is eligible to receive a **5%** discount for all invoices paid within **15** business days from the date of receipt of the commodities or services and/or a correct invoice, whichever is later. The discount shall be taken on the full invoice amount. The state shall consider payment being made as either the date a printed warrant is issued or the date an electronic funds transfer (EFT) is initiated.

SEC. 3.07 CONTRACT PAYMENT

No payment will be made until the contract is approved by the Commissioner of the Department of **NAME** or the Commissioner's designee. Under no conditions will the state be liable for the payment of any interest charges associated with the cost of the contract. The state is not responsible for and will not pay local, state, or federal taxes. All costs associated with the contract must be stated in U.S. currency.

SEC. 3.08 LOCATION OF WORK

The location(s) the work is to be performed, completed and managed are at Anchorage, Palmer, Fairbanks, and Soldotna, Alaska, and remote locations in Alaska.

The state **WILL NOT** provide workspace for the contractor. The contractor must provide its own workspace.

Travel associated costs to Alaska in the performance of this contract will be paid by the State, if approved. Travel costs include airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem only (per diem is capped at \$60.00 per day, per person). Travel must be approved by DOF Project Manager prior to executing travel services. The contractor must provide the DOF Project Manager line item pricing for airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem, in advance of travel to Alaska. Airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem shall be in accordance with Alaska Administrative Manual (AAM) 60. Travel.

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that all services provided under this contract by the contractor and all subcontractors shall be performed in the United States.

If the offeror cannot certify that all work will be performed in the United States, the offeror must contact the procurement officer in writing to request a waiver at least 10 days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

The request must include a detailed description of the portion of work that will be performed outside the United States, where, by whom, and the reason the waiver is necessary.

Failure to comply with these requirements may cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive, or cancel the contract.

SEC. 3.09 SUBCONTRACTORS

Subcontractors will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.10 JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures will not be allowed.

SEC. 3.11 RIGHT TO INSPECT PLACE OF BUSINESS

At reasonable times, the state may inspect those areas of the contractor's place of business that are related to the performance of a contract. If the state makes such an inspection, the contractor must provide reasonable assistance.

SEC. 3.12 CONTRACT PERSONNEL

Any change of the project team members or subcontractors named in the proposal must be approved, in advance and in writing, by the project director or procurement officer. Changes that are not approved by the state may be grounds for the state to terminate the contract.

SEC. 3.13 CONTRACT CHANGES - UNANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS

During the course of this contract, the contractor may be required to perform additional work. That work will be within the general scope of the initial contract. When additional work is required, the project director will provide the contractor a written description of the additional work and request the contractor to submit a firm time schedule for

accomplishing the additional work and a firm price for the additional work. Cost and pricing data must be provided to justify the cost of such amendments per AS 36.30.400.

The contractor will not commence additional work until the procurement officer has secured any required state approvals necessary for the amendment and issued a written contract amendment, approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources or the Commissioner's designee.

SEC. 3.14 NONDISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Contractor agrees that all confidential information shall be used only for purposes of providing the deliverables and performing the services specified herein and shall not disseminate or allow dissemination of confidential information except as provided for in this section. The contractor shall hold as confidential and will use reasonable care (including both facility physical security and electronic security) to prevent unauthorized access by, storage, disclosure, publication, dissemination to and/or use by third parties of, the confidential information. “Reasonable care” means compliance by the contractor with all applicable federal and state law, including the Social Security Act and HIPAA. The contractor must promptly notify the state in writing if it becomes aware of any storage, disclosure, loss, unauthorized access to or use of the confidential information.

Confidential information, as used herein, means any data, files, software, information or materials (whether prepared by the state or its agents or advisors) in oral, electronic, tangible or intangible form and however stored, compiled or memorialized that is classified confidential as defined by State of Alaska classification and categorization guidelines provided by the state to the contractor or a contractor agent or otherwise made available to the contractor or a contractor agent in connection with this contract, or acquired, obtained or learned by the contractor or a contractor agent in the performance of this contract. Examples of confidential information include, but are not limited to: technology infrastructure, architecture, financial data, trade secrets, equipment specifications, user lists, passwords, research data, and technology data (infrastructure, architecture, operating systems, security tools, IP addresses, etc).

If confidential information is requested to be disclosed by the contractor pursuant to a request received by a third party and such disclosure of the confidential information is required under applicable state or federal law, regulation, governmental or regulatory authority, the contractor may disclose the confidential information after providing the state with written notice of the requested disclosure (to the extent such notice to the state is permitted by applicable law) and giving the state opportunity to review the request. If the contractor receives no objection from the state, it may release the confidential information within 30 days. Notice of the requested disclosure of confidential information by the contractor must be provided to the state within a reasonable time after the contractor’s receipt of notice of the requested disclosure and, upon request of the state, shall seek to obtain legal protection from the release of the confidential information.

The following information shall not be considered confidential information: information previously known to be public information when received from the other party; information freely available to the general public; information which now is or hereafter becomes publicly known by other than a breach of confidentiality hereof; or information which is disclosed by a party pursuant to subpoena or other legal process and which as a result becomes lawfully obtainable by the general public.

SEC. 3.15 INDEMINIFICATION

The contractor shall indemnify, hold harmless, and defend the state from and against any claim of, or liability for error, omission or negligent act of the contractor under this agreement. The contractor shall not be required to indemnify the

contracting agency for a claim of, or liability for, the independent negligence of the state. If there is a claim of, or liability for, the joint negligent error or omission of the contractor and the independent negligence of the state, the indemnification and hold harmless obligation shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis. “Contractor” and “state”, as used within this and the following article, include the employees, agents and other contractors who are directly responsible, respectively, to each. The term “independent negligence” is negligence other than in the contracting agency’s selection, administration, monitoring, or controlling of the contractor and in approving or accepting the contractor’s work.

SEC. 3.16 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Without limiting contractor's indemnification, it is agreed that contractor shall purchase at its own expense and maintain in force at all times during the performance of services under this agreement the following policies of insurance. Where specific limits are shown, it is understood that they shall be the minimum acceptable limits. If the contractor's policy contains higher limits, the state shall be entitled to coverage to the extent of such higher limits.

Certificates of Insurance must be furnished to the contracting officer prior to beginning work and must provide for a notice of cancellation, non-renewal, or material change of conditions in accordance with policy provisions. Failure to furnish satisfactory evidence of insurance or lapse of the policy is a material breach of this contract and shall be grounds for termination of the contractor's services. All insurance policies shall comply with and be issued by insurers licensed to transact the business of insurance under AS 21.

Workers' Compensation Insurance: The contractor shall provide and maintain, for all employees engaged in work under this contract, coverage as required by AS 23.30.045, and; where applicable, any other statutory obligations including but not limited to Federal U.S.L. & H. and Jones Act requirements. The policy must waive subrogation against the State.

Commercial General Liability Insurance: covering all business premises and operations used by the Contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 combined single limit per claim.

Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance: covering all vehicles used by the contractor in the performance of services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 combined single limit per claim.

Professional Liability Insurance: covering all errors, omissions or negligent acts in the performance of professional services under this agreement with minimum coverage limits of \$300,000 per claim /annual aggregate.

SEC. 3.17 TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT

If the project director or procurement officer determines that the contractor has refused to perform the work or has failed to perform the work with such diligence as to ensure its timely and accurate completion, the state may, by providing written notice to the contractor, terminate the contractor's right to proceed with part or all of the remaining work.

This clause does not restrict the state's termination rights under the contract provisions of Appendix A, attached in **SECTION 8. ATTACHMENTS**.

SECTION 4. PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

SEC. 4.01 PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT

The state discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals, however, in order for the state to evaluate proposals fairly and completely, offerors must follow the format set out in this IRFP and provide all information requested.

SEC. 4.02 INTRODUCTION

Proposals must include the complete name and address of offeror's firm and the name, mailing address, and telephone number of the person the state should contact regarding the proposal.

Proposals must confirm that the offeror will comply with all provisions in this IRFP; and, if applicable, provide notice that the firm qualifies as an Alaskan bidder. Proposals must be signed by a company officer empowered to bind the company. An offeror's failure to include these items in the proposals may cause the proposal to be determined to be non-responsive and the proposal may be rejected.

SEC. 4.03 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that illustrate their understanding of the requirements of the project and the project schedule.

SEC. 4.04 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the methodology they intend to employ and illustrate how the methodology will serve to accomplish the work and meet the state's project schedule.

SEC. 4.05 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT

Offerors must provide comprehensive narrative statements that set out the management plan they intend to follow and illustrate how the plan will serve to accomplish the work and meet the state's project schedule.

SEC. 4.06 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Offerors must provide an organizational chart specific to the personnel assigned to accomplish the work called for in this IRFP; illustrate the lines of authority; designate the individual responsible and accountable for the completion of each component and deliverable of the IRFP.

Offerors must provide a narrative description of the organization of the project team and a personnel roster that identifies each person who will actually work on the contract and provide the following information about each person listed:

- title,
- resume,
- location(s) where work will be performed,
- itemize the total cost and the number of estimated hours for each individual named above.

Offerors must provide reference names and phone numbers for similar projects the offeror's firm has completed.

SEC. 4.07 COST PROPOSAL

Cost proposals must include an itemized list of all direct and indirect costs associated with the performance of the contract, including, but not limited to, total number of hours at various hourly rates, direct expenses, payroll, supplies, overhead assigned to each person working on the project, percentage of each person's time devoted to the project, and profit.

SEC. 4.08 EVALUATION CRITERIA

All proposals will be reviewed to determine if they are responsive. Proposals determined to be responsive will be evaluated using the criterion that is set out in **SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION**.

An evaluation may not be based on discrimination due to the race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, or political affiliation of the offeror.

SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS USED TO SCORE THIS PROPOSAL IS 100

SEC. 5.01 UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT (15%)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

- 1) How well has the offeror demonstrated a thorough understanding of the purpose and scope of the project?
- 2) How well has the offeror identified pertinent issues and potential problems related to the project?
- 3) To what degree has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the deliverables the state expects it to provide?
- 4) Has the offeror demonstrated an understanding of the state's time schedule and can meet it?

SEC. 5.02 METHODOLOGY USED FOR THE PROJECT (5%)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

- 1) How comprehensive is the methodology and does it depict a logical approach to fulfilling the requirements of the IRFP?
- 2) How well does the methodology match and achieve the objectives set out in the IRFP?
- 3) Does the methodology interface with the time schedule in the IRFP?

SEC. 5.03 MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROJECT (15%)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

- 1) How well does the management plan support all of the project requirements and logically lead to the deliverables required in the IRFP?
- 2) How well is accountability completely and clearly defined?
- 3) Is the organization of the project team clear?
- 4) How well does the management plan illustrate the lines of authority and communication?
- 5) To what extent does the offeror already have the hardware, software, equipment, and licenses necessary to perform the contract?
- 6) Does it appear that the offeror can meet the schedule set out in the IRFP?
- 7) Has the offeror gone beyond the minimum tasks necessary to meet the objectives of the IRFP?
- 8) To what degree is the proposal practical and feasible?
- 9) To what extent has the offeror identified potential problems?

SEC. 5.04 EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS (15%)

Proposals will be evaluated against the questions set out below:

1) Questions regarding the personnel:

- a) Do the individuals assigned to the project have experience on similar projects?
- b) Are resumes complete and do they demonstrate backgrounds that would be desirable for individuals engaged in the work the project requires?
- c) How extensive is the applicable education and experience of the personnel designated to work on the project?

2) Questions regarding the firm and subcontractor (if used):

- a) How well has the firm demonstrated experience in completing similar projects on time and within budget?
- b) How successful is the general history of the firm regarding timely and successful completion of projects?
- c) Has the firm provided letters of reference from previous clients?
- d) If a subcontractor will perform work on the contract, how well do they measure up to the evaluation used for the offeror?

SEC. 5.05 CONTRACT COST (40%)

Overall, a minimum of 40% of the total evaluation points will be assigned to cost. The cost amount used for evaluation may be affected by one or more of the preferences referenced under Section 6.11.

Converting Cost to Points

The lowest cost proposal will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost. The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined through the method set out in Section 6.15.

SEC. 5.06 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE (10%)

If an offeror qualifies for the Alaska Bidder Preference, the offeror will receive an Alaska Offeror Preference. The preference will be 10% of the total available points. This amount will be added to the overall evaluation score of each Alaskan offeror.

SECTION 6. GENERAL PROCESS INFORMATION

SEC. 6.01 ALASKA BUSINESS LICENSE AND OTHER REQUIRED LICENSES

Prior to the award of a contract, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license. However, in order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference and other related preferences, such as the Alaska Veteran Preference and Alaska Offeror Preference, an offeror must hold a valid Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. Offerors should contact the **Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing, PO Box 110806, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806**, for information on these licenses. Acceptable evidence that the offeror possesses a valid Alaska business license may consist of any one of the following:

- copy of an Alaska business license;
- certification on the proposal that the offeror has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the proposal;
- a canceled check for the Alaska business license fee;
- a copy of the Alaska business license application with a receipt stamp from the state's occupational licensing office; or
- a sworn and notarized statement that the offeror has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.

You are not required to hold a valid Alaska business license at the time proposals are opened if you possess one of the following licenses and are offering services or supplies under that specific line of business:

- fisheries business licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue or Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
- liquor licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue for alcohol sales only,
- insurance licenses issued by Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Insurance, or
- Mining licenses issued by Alaska Department of Revenue.

Prior the deadline for receipt of proposals, all offerors must hold any other necessary applicable professional licenses required by Alaska Statute.

SEC. 6.02 SITE INSPECTION

The state may conduct on-site visits to evaluate the offeror's capacity to perform the contract. An offeror must agree, at risk of being found non-responsive and having its proposal rejected, to provide the state reasonable access to relevant portions of its work sites. Individuals designated by the procurement officer at the state's expense will make site inspection.

SEC. 6.03 CLARIFICATION OF OFFERS

In order to determine if a proposal is reasonably susceptible for award, communications by the procurement officer or the proposal evaluation committee (PEC) are permitted with an offeror to clarify uncertainties or eliminate confusion

concerning the contents of a proposal. Clarifications may not result in a material or substantive change to the proposal. The evaluation by the procurement officer or the PEC may be adjusted as a result of a clarification under this section.

SEC. 6.04 DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFERORS

The state may conduct discussions with offerors in accordance with AS 36.30.240 and 2 AAC 12.290. The purpose of these discussions will be to ensure full understanding of the requirements of the IRFP and proposal. Discussions will be limited to specific sections of the IRFP or proposal identified by the procurement officer. Discussions will only be held with offerors who have submitted a proposal deemed reasonably susceptible for award by the procurement officer. Discussions, if held, will be after initial evaluation of proposals by the procurement officer or the PEC. If modifications are made as a result of these discussions they will be put in writing. Following discussions, the procurement officer may set a time for best and final proposal submissions from those offerors with whom discussions were held. Proposals may be reevaluated after receipt of best and final proposal submissions.

If an offeror does not submit a best and final proposal or a notice of withdrawal, the offeror's immediate previous proposal is considered the offeror's best and final proposal.

Offerors with a disability needing accommodation should contact the procurement officer prior to the date set for discussions so that reasonable accommodation can be made. Any oral modification of a proposal must be reduced to writing by the offeror.

SEC. 6.05 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

The procurement officer, or an evaluation committee made up of at least three state employees or public officials, will evaluate proposals. The evaluation will be based solely on the evaluation factors set out in **SECTION 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND CONTRACTOR SELECTION**.

After receipt of proposals, if there is a need for any substantial clarification or material change in the IRFP, an amendment will be issued. The amendment will incorporate the clarification or change, and a new date and time established for new or amended proposals. Evaluations may be adjusted as a result of receiving new or amended proposals.

SEC. 6.06 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

After final evaluation, the procurement officer may negotiate with the offeror of the highest-ranked proposal. Negotiations, if held, shall be within the scope of the request for proposals and limited to those items which would not have an effect on the ranking of proposals. If the highest-ranked offeror fails to provide necessary information for negotiations in a timely manner, or fails to negotiate in good faith, the state may terminate negotiations and negotiate with the offeror of the next highest-ranked proposal. If contract negotiations are commenced, they may be held via teleconference.

If the contract negotiations take place, the procurement officer will provide a dial in teleconference number.

SEC. 6.07 FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE

If the selected offeror

- fails to provide the information required to begin negotiations in a timely manner; or
- fails to negotiate in good faith; or

- indicates they cannot perform the contract within the budgeted funds available for the project; or
- if the offeror and the state, after a good faith effort, simply cannot come to terms,

the state may terminate negotiations with the offeror initially selected and commence negotiations with the next highest ranked offeror.

SEC. 6.08 OFFEROR NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION

After the completion of contract negotiation the procurement officer will issue a written Notice of Intent to Award (NIA) and send copies to all offerors. The NIA will set out the names of all offerors and identify the proposal selected for award.

SEC. 6.09 PROTEST

2 AAC 12.695 provides that an interested party may protest the content of the IRFP or the award of a contract.

An interested party is defined in 2 AAC 12.990(a)(7) as “an actual or prospective bidder or offeror whose economic interest might be affected substantially and directly the issuance of a contract solicitation, the award of a contract, or the failure to award a contract.”

Per 2 AAC 12.695, an interested party must first attempt to informally resolve the dispute with the procurement officer. If that attempt is unsuccessful, the interested party may file a written protest to the solicitation or the award of the contract. The protest must be filed with the Commissioner of the purchasing agency or the Commissioner’s designee. The protester must also file a copy of the protest with the procurement officer. The protest must include the following information:

- the name, address, and telephone number of the protester;
- the signature of the protester or the protester's representative;
- identification of the contracting agency and the solicitation or contract at issue;
- a detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds of the protest including copies of relevant documents; and
- the form of relief requested.

If an interested party wishes to protest the content of a solicitation, the protest must be filed before the date and time that proposals are due.

If an offeror wishes to protest the award of a contract not greater than \$50,000, the protest must be filed within 10 days from the date of the solicitation or award, whichever is later.

If an offeror wishes to protest the award of a contract greater than \$50,000, the protest must be filed within 10 days from the date that notice of award is made.

A protester must have submitted a proposal in order to have sufficient standing to protest the award of a contract.

The procurement officer shall immediately give notice of the protest to the contractor or, if no award has been made, to all offerors who submitted proposals.

If the protestor agrees, the Commissioner of the purchasing department or the Commissioner’s designee may assign the protest to the procurement officer or other state official for alternate dispute resolution. In other cases, the

Commissioner or the Commissioner's designee may issue a decision denying the protest and stating the reasons for denial, issue a decision sustaining the protest, in whole or in part, and instruct the procurement officer to implement an appropriate remedy, or conduct a hearing using procedures set out in AS 36.30.670(b).

SEC. 6.10 APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES

Certain preferences apply to all contracts for professional services, regardless of their dollar value. The Alaska Bidder, Alaska Veteran, and Alaska Offeror preferences are the most common preferences involved in the IRFP process. Additional preferences that may apply to this procurement are listed below. Guides that contain excerpts from the relevant statutes and codes, explain when the preferences apply and provide examples of how to calculate the preferences are available at the **Department of Administration, Division of Shared Service's** web site:

<http://doa.alaska.gov/dgs/pdf/pref1.pdf>

- Alaska Products Preference - AS 36.30.332
- Recycled Products Preference - AS 36.30.337
- Local Agriculture and Fisheries Products Preference - AS 36.15.050
- Employment Program Preference - AS 36.30.321(b)
- Alaskans with Disabilities Preference - AS 36.30.321(d)

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development keeps a list of qualified employment programs and individuals who qualify as persons with a disability. As evidence of a business' or an individual's right to the Employment Program or Alaskans with Disabilities preferences, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will issue a certification letter. To take advantage of these preferences, a business or individual must be on the appropriate Division of Vocational Rehabilitation list prior to the time designated for receipt of proposals. Offerors must attach a copy of their certification letter to the proposal. **An offeror's failure to provide this certification letter with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.**

Sec. 6.11 ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE

An Alaska Bidder Preference of 5% will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who:

- 1) holds a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals;
- 2) submits a proposal for goods or services under the name appearing on the offeror's current Alaska business license;
- 3) has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the offeror, or an employee of the offeror, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the proposal;
- 4) is incorporated or qualified to do business under the laws of the state, is a sole proprietorship and the proprietor is a resident of the state, is a limited liability company (LLC) organized under AS 10.50 and all members are residents of the state, or is a partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 and all partners are residents of the state; and
- 5) if a joint venture, is composed entirely of ventures that qualify under (1)-(4) of this subsection.

Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form

In order to receive the Alaska Bidder Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this IRFP. An offeror does not need to complete the Alaska Veteran Preference questions on the form if not claiming the Alaska Veteran Preference. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.12 ALASKA VETERAN PREFERENCE

An Alaska Veteran Preference of 5%, not to exceed \$5,000, will be applied to the price in the proposal. The preference will be given to an offeror who qualifies under AS 36.30.990(2) as an Alaska bidder and is a:

- A. sole proprietorship owned by an Alaska veteran;
- B. partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 if a majority of the partners are Alaska veterans;
- C. limited liability company organized under AS 10.50 if a majority of the members are Alaska veterans; or
- D. corporation that is wholly owned by individuals, and a majority of the individuals are Alaska veterans.

In accordance with AS 36.30.321(i), the bidder must also add value by actually performing, controlling, managing, and supervising the services provided, or for supplies, the bidder must have sold supplies of the general nature solicited to other state agencies, other government, or the general public.

Alaska Veteran Preference Certification

In order to receive the Alaska Veteran Preference, the proposal must include the Alaska Bidder Preference Certification Form attached to this IRFP. An offeror's failure to provide this completed form with their proposal will cause the state to disallow the preference.

SEC. 6.13 ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE

2 AAC 12.260(e) provides Alaska offerors a 10% overall evaluation point preference. Alaska bidders, as defined in AS 36.30.990(2), are eligible for the preference. An Alaska offeror will receive 10 percent of the total available points added to their overall evaluation score as a preference.

SEC. 6.14 FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS

The distribution of points based on cost will be determined as set out in 2 AAC 12.260(c). The lowest cost proposal will receive the maximum number of points allocated to cost. The point allocations for cost on the other proposals will be determined using the formula:

$$[(\text{Price of Lowest Cost Proposal}) \times (\text{Maximum Points for Cost})] \div (\text{Cost of Each Higher Priced Proposal})$$

SEC. 6.15 EXAMPLES: CONVERTING COST TO POINTS & APPLYING PREFERENCES**(a) FORMULA USED TO CONVERT COST TO POINTS****STEP 1**

List all proposal prices, adjusted where appropriate by the application of applicable preferences claimed by the offeror.

Offeror #1	\$40,000
Offeror #2	\$42,750
Offeror #3	\$47,500

STEP 2

In this example, the IRFP allotted 40% of the available 100 points to cost. This means that the lowest cost will receive the maximum number of points.

Offeror #1 receives 40 points.

The reason they receive that amount is because the lowest cost proposal, in this case \$40,000, receives the maximum number of points allocated to cost, 40 points.

Offeror #2 receives 37.4 points.

$\$40,000 \text{ lowest cost} \times 40 \text{ maximum points for cost} = 1,600,000 \div \$42,750 \text{ cost of Offeror \#2's proposal} = 37.4$

Offeror #3 receives 33.7 points.

$\$40,000 \text{ lowest cost} \times 40 \text{ maximum points for cost} = 1,600,000 \div \$47,500 \text{ cost of Offeror \#3's proposal} = 33.7$

(b) ALASKA OFFEROR PREFERENCE**STEP 1**

Determine the number of points available to qualifying offerors under this preference.

100 Total Points Available in IRFP x 10% Alaska offerors preference = 10 Points for the Preference

STEP 2

Determine which offerors qualify as Alaska bidders and thus, are eligible for the Alaska offerors preference. For the purpose of this example, presume that all of the proposals have been completely evaluated based on the evaluation criteria in the IRFP. The scores at this point are:

Offeror #1	83 points	No Preference	0 points
Offeror #2	74 points	Alaska Offerors Preference	10 points
Offeror #3	80 points	Alaska Offerors Preference	10 points

STEP 3

Add the applicable Alaska offerors preference amounts to the offeror's scores:

Offeror #1	83 points	
Offeror #2	84 points	(74 points + 10 points)
Offeror #3	90 points	(80 points + 10 points)

STEP 4

Offeror #3 is the highest scoring offeror and would get the award, provided their proposal is responsible and responsive.

SECTION 7. GENERAL LEGAL INFORMATION

SEC. 7.01 STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The contractor will be required to sign and submit the State's Standard Agreement Form for Professional Services Contracts (form SAF.DOC/Appendix A) OR Standard Contract Form for Goods and Non-Professional Services (form SCF.DOC/Appendix A). This form is attached in **SECTION 8. EXHIBITS** for your review. The contractor must comply with the contract provisions set out in this attachment. No alteration of these provisions will be permitted without prior written approval from the Department of Law. Objections to any of the provisions in Appendix A must be set out in the offeror's proposal in a separate document. Please include the following information with any change that you are proposing:

1. Identify the provision the offeror takes exception with.
2. Identify why the provision is unjust, unreasonable, etc.
3. Identify exactly what suggested changes should be made.

SEC. 7.02 QUALIFIED OFFERORS

Per 2 AAC 12.875, unless provided for otherwise in the IRFP, to qualify as an offeror for award of a contract issued under AS 36.30, the offeror must:

- 1) Add value in the contract by actually performing, controlling, managing, or supervising the services to be provided; or
- 2) Be in the business of selling and have actually sold on a regular basis the supplies that are the subject of the IRFP.

If the offeror leases services or supplies or acts as a broker or agency in providing the services or supplies in order to meet these requirements, the procurement officer may not accept the offeror as a qualified offeror under AS 36.30.

SEC. 7.03 PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE CONTRACT

Part of all of this IRFP and the successful proposal may be incorporated into the contract.

SEC. 7.04 ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The state reserves the right to add terms and conditions during contract negotiations. These terms and conditions will be within the scope of the IRFP and will not affect the proposal evaluations.

SEC. 7.05 HUMAN TRAFFICKING

By signature on their proposal, the offeror certifies that the offeror is not established and headquartered or incorporated and headquartered in a country recognized as Tier 3 in the most recent United States Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report.

The most recent United States Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report can be found at the following website: <https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>

Failure to comply with this requirement will cause the state to reject the proposal as non-responsive, or cancel the contract.

SEC. 7.06 RIGHT OF REJECTION

Offerors must comply with all of the terms of the IRFP, the State Procurement Code (AS 36.30), and all applicable local, state, and federal laws, codes, and regulations. The procurement officer may reject any proposal that does not comply with all of the material and substantial terms, conditions, and performance requirements of the IRFP.

Offerors may not qualify the proposal nor restrict the rights of the state. If an offeror does so, the procurement officer may determine the proposal to be a non-responsive counter-offer and the proposal may be rejected.

Minor informalities that:

- do not affect responsiveness;
- are merely a matter of form or format;
- do not change the relative standing or otherwise prejudice other offers;
- do not change the meaning or scope of the IRFP;
- are trivial, negligible, or immaterial in nature;
- do not reflect a material change in the work; or
- do not constitute a substantial reservation against a requirement or provision;

may be waived by the procurement officer.

The state reserves the right to refrain from making an award if it determines that to be in its best interest.

A proposal from a debarred or suspended offeror shall be rejected.

SEC. 7.07 STATE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION COSTS

The state will not pay any cost associated with the preparation, submittal, presentation, or evaluation of any proposal.

SEC. 7.08 DISCLOSURE OF PROPOSAL CONTENTS

All proposals and other material submitted become the property of the State of Alaska and may be returned only at the state's option. AS 40.25.110 requires public records to be open to reasonable inspection. All proposal information, including detailed price and cost information, will be held in confidence during the evaluation process and prior to the time a Notice of Intent to Award is issued. Thereafter, proposals will become public information.

The Office of Procurement and Property Management (OPPM), or their designee recognizes that some information an offeror submits might be confidential under the United States or the State of Alaska Constitution, a federal statute or regulation, or a State of Alaska statute: i.e., might be confidential business information (CBI). *See, e.g.*, article 1, section 1 of the Alaska Constitution; AS 45.50.910 – 45.50.945 (the Alaska Uniform Trade Secrets Act); *DNR v. Arctic Slope Regional Corp.*, 834 P.2d 134, 137-39 (Alaska 1991). For OPPM or their designee to treat information an offeror submits with its proposal as CBI, the offeror must do the following when submitting their proposal: (1) mark the specific information it asserts is CBI; and (2) for each discrete set of such information, identify, in writing, each authority the offeror asserts make the information CBI. If the offeror does not do these things, the information will become public after the Notice of Intent to Award is issued. If the offeror does these things, OPPM or their designee will evaluate the offeror's assertion upon receiving a request for the information. If OPPM or their designee reject the assertion, they will, to the extent permitted

by federal and State of Alaska law, undertake reasonable measures to give the offeror an opportunity to object to the disclosure of the information.

SEC. 7.09 ASSIGNMENTS

Per 2 AAC 12.480, the contractor may not transfer or assign any portion of the contract without prior written approval from the procurement officer. Proposals that are conditioned upon the state's approval of an assignment will be rejected as non-responsive.

SEC. 7.10 DISPUTES

A contract resulting from this IRFP is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. If the contractor has a claim arising in connection with the agreement that it cannot resolve with the state by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – AS 36.30.632. To the extent not otherwise governed by the preceding, the claim shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

SEC. 7.11 SEVERABILITY

If any provision of the contract is found to be invalid or declared by a court to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and provisions will not be affected; and, the rights and obligations of the parties will be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the particular provision held to be invalid.

SEC. 7.12 SUPPLEMENTAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Proposals must comply with **SEC. 7.06 RIGHT OF REJECTION**. However, if the state fails to identify or detect supplemental terms or conditions that conflict with those contained in this IRFP or that diminish the state's rights under any contract resulting from the IRFP, the term(s) or condition(s) will be considered null and void. After award of contract:

if conflict arises between a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal and a term or condition of the IRFP, the term or condition of the IRFP will prevail; and

if the state's rights would be diminished as a result of application of a supplemental term or condition included in the proposal, the supplemental term or condition will be considered null and void.

SEC. 7.13 FEDERALLY IMPOSED TARRIFFS

Changes in price (increase or decrease) resulting directly from a new or updated Federal Tariff, excise tax, or duty, imposed after contract award may be adjusted during the contract period or before delivery into the United States via contract amendment.

- **Notification of Changes:** The Contractor must promptly notify the Procurement Officer in writing of any new, increased, or decreased Federal excise tax or duty that may result in either an increase or decrease in the contact price and shall take appropriate action as directed by the Procurement Officer.
- **After-imposed or Increased Taxes and Duties:** Any Federal excise tax or duty for goods or services covered by this contract that was exempted or excluded on the contract award date but later imposed on the contractor during the contract period, as the result of legislative, judicial, or administrative action may result in a price increase provided:
 - a) The tax or duty takes effect after the contract award date and isn't otherwise addressed by the contract;

- b) The contractor warrants, in writing, that no amount of the newly imposed Federal excise tax or duty or rate increase was included in the contract price, as a contingency or otherwise.
- **After-relieved or Decreased Taxes and Duties:** The contract price shall be decreased by the amount of any decrease in Federal excise tax or duty for goods or services under the contract, except social security or other employment [taxes](#), that the Contractor is required to pay or bear, or does not obtain a refund of, through the Contractor's fault, negligence, or failure to follow instructions of the Procurement Officer.
 - **State's Ability to Make Changes:** The State reserves the right to request verification of Federal excise tax or duty amounts on goods or services covered by this contract and increase or decrease the contract price accordingly.
 - **Price Change Threshold:** No adjustment shall be made in the contract price under this clause unless the amount of the adjustment exceeds \$250.

SECTION 8. ATTACHMENTS

SEC. 8.01 ATTACHMENTS

Attachments:

- 1) Standard Agreement Form (SAF) with Appendix A – General Provisions;
- 2) Certification of Entitlement to the Alaska Bidder Preference;
- 3) Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion;
- 4) Cost Proposal

ATTACHMENT 1**STANDARD AGREEMENT FORM FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

The parties' contract comprises this Standard Agreement Form, as well as its referenced Articles and their associated Appendices

1. Agency Contract Number	2. Contract Title	3. Agency Fund Code	4. Agency Appropriation Code
5. Vendor Number	6. IRIS GAE Number (if used)	7. Alaska Business License Number	
This contract is between the State of Alaska,			
8. Department of	Division	hereafter the State, and	
9. Contractor hereafter the Contractor			
Mailing Address	Street or P.O. Box	City	State ZIP+4
<p>10. Article 1. Appendices: Appendices referred to in this contract and attached to it are considered part of it.</p> <p>Article 2. Performance of Service:</p> <p>2.1 Appendix A (General Provisions), Articles 1 through 16, governs the performance of services under this contract.</p> <p>2.2 Appendix B sets forth the liability and insurance provisions of this contract.</p> <p>2.3 Appendix C sets forth the services to be performed by the Contractor.</p> <p>Article 3. Period of Performance: The period of performance for this contract begins _____, and ends _____.</p> <p>Article 4. Considerations:</p> <p>4.1 In full consideration of the Contractor's performance under this contract, the State shall pay the Contractor a sum not to exceed \$ _____ in accordance with the provisions of Appendix D.</p> <p>4.2 When billing the State, the Contractor shall refer to the Authority Number or the Agency Contract Number and send the billing to:</p>			
11. Department of	Attention: Division of		
Mailing Address	Attention:		

12. CONTRACTOR		14. CERTIFICATION: I certify that the facts herein and on supporting documents are correct, that this voucher constitutes a legal charge against funds and appropriations cited, that sufficient funds are encumbered to pay this obligation, or that there is a sufficient balance in the appropriation cited to cover this obligation. I am aware that to knowingly make or allow false entries or alternations on a public record, or knowingly destroy, mutilate, suppress, conceal, remove or otherwise impair the verity, legibility or availability of a public record constitutes tampering with public records punishable under AS 11.56.815-.820. Other disciplinary action may be taken up to and including dismissal.	
Name of Firm			
Signature of Authorized Representative	Date		
Typed or Printed Name of Authorized Representative			
Title			
13. CONTRACTING AGENCY		Signature of Head of Contracting Agency or Designee	
Department/Division	Date	Date	
Signature of Project Manager		Typed or Printed Name	
Typed or Printed Name of Project Manager		Title	
Title			

NOTICE: This contract has no effect until signed by the head of contracting agency or designee.

APPENDIX A

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Definitions

- 1.1 In this contract and appendices, "Project Manager" or "Agency Head" or "Procurement Officer" means the person who signs this contract on behalf of the Requesting Agency and includes a successor or authorized representative.
- 1.2 "State Contracting Agency" means the department for which this contract is to be performed and for which the Commissioner or Authorized Designee acted in signing this contract.

Article 2. Inspections and Reports

- 2.1 The department may inspect, in the manner and at reasonable times it considers appropriate, all the Contractor's facilities and activities under this contract.
- 2.2 The Contractor shall make progress and other reports in the manner and at the times the department reasonably requires.

Article 3. Disputes

- 3.1 If the Contractor has a claim arising in connection with the contract that it cannot resolve with the State by mutual agreement, it shall pursue the claim, if at all, in accordance with the provisions of AS 36.30.620 – 632.

Article 4. Equal Employment Opportunity

- 4.1 The Contractor may not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, or because of age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood when the reasonable demands of the position(s) do not require distinction on the basis of age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, or parenthood. The Contractor shall take affirmative action to ensure that the applicants are considered for employment and that employees are treated during employment without unlawful regard to their race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood. This action must include, but need not be limited to, the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training including apprenticeship. The Contractor shall post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting out the provisions of this paragraph.
- 4.2 The Contractor shall state, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees to work on State of Alaska contract jobs, that it is an equal opportunity employer and that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy or parenthood.

- 4.3 The Contractor shall send to each labor union or representative of workers with which the Contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding a notice advising the labor union or workers' compensation representative of the Contractor's commitments under this article and post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to all employees and applicants for employment.
- 4.4 The Contractor shall include the provisions of this article in every contract and shall require the inclusion of these provisions in every contract entered into by any of its subcontractors, so that those provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor. For the purpose of including those provisions in any contract or subcontract, as required by this contract, "Contractor" and "subcontractor" may be changed to reflect appropriately the name or designation of the parties of the contract or subcontract.
- 4.5 The Contractor shall cooperate fully with State efforts which seek to deal with the problem of unlawful discrimination, and with all other State efforts to guarantee fair employment practices under this contract, and promptly comply with all requests and directions from the State Commission for Human Rights or any of its officers or agents relating to prevention of discriminatory employment practices.
- 4.6 Full cooperation in paragraph 4.5 includes, but is not limited to, being a witness in any proceeding involving questions of unlawful discrimination if that is requested by any official or agency of the State of Alaska; permitting employees of the Contractor to be witnesses or complainants in any proceeding involving questions of unlawful discrimination, if that is requested by any official or agency of the State of Alaska; participating in meetings; submitting periodic reports on the equal employment aspects of present and future employment; assisting inspection of the Contractor's facilities; and promptly complying with all State directives considered essential by any office or agency of the State of Alaska to ensure compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to the prevention of discriminatory employment practices.
- 4.7 Failure to perform under this article constitutes a material breach of contract.

Article 5. Termination

The Project Manager, by written notice, may terminate this contract, in whole or in part, when it is in the best interest of the State. In the absence of a breach of contract by the Contractor, the State is liable only for payment in accordance with the payment provisions of this contract for services rendered before the effective date of termination.

Article 6. No Assignment or Delegation

The Contractor may not assign or delegate this contract, or any part of it, or any right to any of the money to be paid under it, except with the written consent of the Project Manager and the Agency Head.

Article 7. No Additional Work or Material

No claim for additional services, not specifically provided in this contract, performed or furnished by the Contractor, will be allowed, nor may the Contractor do any work or furnish any material not covered by the contract unless the work or material is ordered in writing by the Project Manager and approved by the Agency Head.

Article 8. Independent Contractor

The Contractor and any agents and employees of the Contractor act in an independent capacity and are not officers or employees or agents of the State in the performance of this contract.

Article 9. Payment of Taxes

As a condition of performance of this contract, the Contractor shall pay all federal, state, and local taxes incurred by the Contractor and shall require their payment by any subcontractor or any other persons in the performance of this contract. Satisfactory performance of this paragraph is a condition precedent to payment by the State under this contract.

Article 10. Ownership of Documents

All designs, drawings, specifications, notes, artwork, and other work developed in the performance of this agreement are produced for hire and remain the sole property of the State of Alaska and may be used by the State for any other purpose without additional compensation to the Contractor. The Contractor agrees not to assert any rights and not to establish any claim under the design patent or copyright laws. Nevertheless, if the Contractor does mark such documents with a statement suggesting they are trademarked, copyrighted, or otherwise protected against the State's unencumbered use or distribution, the Contractor agrees that this paragraph supersedes any such statement and renders it void. The Contractor, for a period of three years after final payment under this contract, agrees to furnish and provide access to all retained materials at the request of the Project Manager. Unless otherwise directed by the Project Manager, the Contractor may retain copies of all the materials.

Article 11. Governing Law; Forum Selection

This contract is governed by the laws of the State of Alaska. To the extent not otherwise governed by Article 3 of this Appendix, any claim concerning this contract shall be brought only in the Superior Court of the State of Alaska and not elsewhere.

Article 12. Conflicting Provisions

Unless specifically amended and approved by the Department of Law, the terms of this contract supersede any provisions the Contractor may seek to add. The Contractor may not add additional or different terms to this contract; AS 45.02.207(b)(1). The Contractor specifically acknowledges and agrees that, among other things, provisions in any documents it seeks to append hereto that purport to (1) waive the State of Alaska's sovereign immunity, (2) impose indemnification obligations on the State of Alaska, or (3) limit liability of the Contractor for acts of Contractor negligence, are expressly superseded by this contract and are void.

Article 13. Officials Not to Benefit

Contractor must comply with all applicable federal or state laws regulating ethical conduct of public officers and employees.

ATTACHMENT 2

CERTIFICATION OF ENTITLEMENT TO THE ALASKA BIDDER PREFERENCE

I am the offeror or a duly authorized agent of the offeror, and I certify that the offeror is entitled to the Alaska Bidder Preference. I know and understand that the Alaska Bidder Preference provides for substantial benefits which could be favorable to the offeror, and which could affect the award of the Request for Proposals to the offeror's benefit. I am aware that falsely claiming the Alaska Bidder Preference is a violation of the State of Alaska Procurement Code (AS 36.30) and may be cause for felony prosecution and conviction.

I offer the following evidence or statements in support of my Certification of Entitlement to the Alaska Bidder Preference:

1. As of the deadline for receipt of the proposal, the offeror possesses a valid Alaska business license in any one of the following forms:
 - a copy of an Alaska business license;
 - certification on the proposal that the offeror has a valid Alaska business license and has included the license number in the proposal;
 - a canceled check for the Alaska business license fee;
 - a copy of the Alaska business license application with a receipt stamp from the State's occupational licensing office; *OR*
 - a sworn notarized affidavit that the offeror has applied and paid for the Alaska business license.
2. In addition to holding a current Alaska business license prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals, the offeror:
 - (a) is submitting a proposal for goods or services under the name appearing on the offeror's current Alaska business license;
 - (b) has maintained a place of business within the state staffed by the offeror, or an employee of the offeror, for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of the bid;
 - (c) is incorporated or qualified to do business under the laws of the state, is a sole proprietorship, and the proprietor is a resident of the state, is a Limited Liability Company (LLC) organized under AS 10.50 and all members are residents of the state, or is a partnership under AS 32.06 or AS 32.11 and all partners are residents of the state; *AND*
 - (d) if a joint venture, is composed entirely of ventures that qualify under items (a)-(c) of this subsection.

Signature of Offeror or Offeror's Authorized Agent

Date

Printed Name

ATTACHMENT 3

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY, AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION

LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 29 CFR Part 98, Section 98.510, Participant's responsibilities. The regulations were published as Part VII of the May 26, 1988, Federal Register (pages 19160-19211).

(BEFORE COMPLETING CERTIFICATION, READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE WHICH ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CERTIFICATION)

The prospective recipient of federal assistance funds certifies, by submission of this bid, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

Where the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds is unable to certify to any of the Statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this Proposal.

Name of Representative: _____.

Title of Representative: _____.

Signature: _____.

Date: _____.

1. Is this company enrolled in the Federal System for Awards Management (SAM)? YES NO

2. If Yes, please provide either the DUNS Number _____ or the Cage Code
_____.

3. If No, the company must be enrolled in SAM before a contract can be signed or payment made on a contract involving federal funds. Failure to do so will result in cancellation of the contract.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFICATION

1. By signing and submitting this Proposal, the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds is providing the certification as set out below.
2. The certification in this class is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the Department of Labor (DOL) may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective recipient of federal assistance funds shall provide immediate written notice to the person to whom this Proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective recipient of federal assistance funds learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
4. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "Proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this Proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective recipient of federal assistance funds agrees by submitting this Proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the DOL.
6. The prospective recipient of federal assistance funds further agrees by submitting this Proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may but is not required to check the List of Parties Excluded from Procurement or Non-procurement Programs.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the DOL may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

ATTACHMENT 4

COST PROPOSAL FORM

Offerors are to submit their cost using this Cost Proposal Form. Costs offered are to remain firm for the duration of the contract and are to include all costs associated with providing required services, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, payroll, supplies, equipment, overhead, and profit. The Total of Extended Costs shown on this form in Item #5 is the cost that will be used for evaluation and award purposes for this IRFP.

Deadline for receipt of proposals is 2:00pm AKST, Friday April 21, 2023.

As stated in this IRFP, the quantities of services are as needed. The State will only pay for actual services provided. The amount of services needed may vary based upon the actual needs of the State. The State does not guarantee a minimum or maximum amount of services under any contract resulting from this IRFP. If services are required, hourly rates for listed positions will be paid at the Hourly Rate shown on the offeror's Cost Proposal Form.

Travel associated costs to Alaska in the performance of a resulting contract for as needed Clinical Director services will be paid by the State, if approved. Travel costs include airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem only (per diem is capped at \$60 per day, per person). Travel must be approved by the DNR project manager prior to executing travel services. The Contractor must provide the DNR project manager line item pricing for airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem prior to travel for review/approval. Airfare, transportation, lodging, and per diem shall be in accordance with Alaska Administrative Manual (AAM) 60. Travel.

1. AS-NEEDED HEALTH AND WELLNESS CLINICAL DIRECTOR

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED HOURS	HOURLY RATE	EXTENDED COST (EST. HOURS X HOURLY RATE)
1.	As-Needed Clinical Director Counseling Services:	24	\$	
2.	As-Needed Clinical Director Education and Training Services:	6	\$	
3.	As-Needed Clinical Director Critical Incident Response Services:	10	\$	
4.	As-Needed Clinical Director Wellness Unit/Program Support and Development Services:	18	\$	
5.	Total of Extended Costs in Items (1.) through (4.) above for each Position entered:			\$

2. PREFERENCE CERTIFICATION:

ITEM	QUESTION	YES	NO
1.	Does your company qualify for the Alaska Bidder's Preference?		
2.	Does your company qualify for the Alaska Veteran's Preference? If yes, provide a copy of your DD 214 with your service/social security number, date of birth, and other Privacy Act protected information redacted or "inked" out.		
3.	Does your company qualify for the Alaskans with Disabilities preference? If yes, you must provide a copy of your certification letter issued by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to receive this preference.		
4.	Does your company qualify for the Employment Program Preference? If yes, you must provide a copy of your certification letter issued by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to receive this preference.		

3. OFFEROR CERTIFICATION:

Company Name:
Authorized Representative's Printed Name:
Authorized Representative's Signature:
Date Cost Proposal Signed: